Draft GNSO Council Election Procedures for the GNSO Council Chair to be seated in Dakar in October 2011.

References

• ICANN Bylaws (http://www.icann.org/en/general/bylaws.htm#X)

Article X, Section 3, paragraph 7. The GNSO Council shall select the GNSO Chair for a term the GNSO Council specifies, but not longer than one year. Each House (as described in Section 6 of this Article) shall select a Vice-Chair, who will be a Vice-Chair of the whole of the GNSO Council, for a term the GNSO Council specifies, but not longer than one year. The procedures for selecting the Chair and any other officers are contained in the GNSO Operating Procedures. In the event that the GNSO Council has not elected a GNSO Chair by the end of the previous Chair's term, the Vice- Chairs will serve as Interim GNSO Co-Chairs until a successful election can be held.

• GNSO Council Operating Procedures approved 7 April 2011
(http://gnso.icann.org/council/gnso-op-procedures-08apr11-en.pdf)

2.2 Officer Elections:

Chair and Vice-Chairs - The GNSO Council shall select the GNSO Chair and two Vice Chairs as follows:

a. The GNSO Chair shall be elected by a 60 percent vote of both houses.
b. Each house will be allowed one candidate for GNSO Council Chair. A candidate for GNSO Council Chair does not need to be a member of a house but must be a member of the GNSO Council. Should a Chair be elected outside the houses that Chair will be a non-voting Chair.
i. All ballots will include the "none of the above" option. In the event that this option gets 60 percent of both houses, each house will
commence a new nomination period of not longer than 15 days. The election will be rescheduled for no sooner than 30 days.
ii. In the case of a tie the election will be rescheduled no sooner than 30 days. In the case of a second tie, each house will commence a new nomination period of not longer than 15 days. The election will be rescheduled for no sooner than 30 days.
iii. The leading candidate will be defined as the one with the highest score. For each candidate, determine the percentage of vote received in each house; add these percentages to determine the score; the leader is the one with the higher score. (Maximum score equals 200.)
iv. In case neither candidate reaches the 60 percent of both houses threshold, a second ballot will be held between the leader and "none of the above."
v. If the single candidate does not reach the 60 percent of both houses threshold, then each house will commence a new nomination period of not longer than 15 days. The election will be rescheduled for no sooner than 30 days.
c. Each house shall select a Vice Chair within their respective houses.
d. A Chair and Vice Chair may not be elected from the same Stakeholder Group.
e. The Chair or Vice Chair shall retain their votes in their respective houses.
f. In the event that the GNSO Council has not elected a GNSO Council Chair by the

end of the previous Chair's term, the Vice-Chairs will serve as Interim
GNSO Co-Chairs until a successful election can be held.
g. The Council shall inform the Board and the Community appropriately and post the
election results on the GNSO website within 2 business days following the
election.

Chair Qualifications Summary

Nominees must be members of the council at the time the election is held and not
necessarily at the time that the nominations are made. This means that:

• A current council member who will not be in the new council is not eligible to run for
chair.
• An incoming council member who is not currently in the council is eligible to run for
chair.

Only current GNSO Council members are eligible to make nominations and second
nominations.

A candidate for GNSO Council Chair does not need to be a member of the house
selecting the candidate. Should the non voting NCA be elected as chair he/she would
be a non-voting chair. The two houses may, separately, select the same candidate
from the nominee pool if they so wish.
House nominations for Council Chair should be sent to gnso.secretariat@icann.org.
The GNSO Secretariat will send each House's nomination to the Council list as soon
as it is received.

Chair Nomination Process (Two options)

1. **Allow for voting in Dakar**

   **Start nominations Wednesday 28 September until Wednesday 12
   October (2 weeks)**

Per the GNSO Operating Procedures referenced above (Section 2.2.b): "Each house
will be allowed to nominate one candidate for GNSO Council Chair. Each house is
responsible for determining how to nominate its candidate." To allow for the
possibility of a timely Council election process in Dakar, each house is asked to
submit its nominee for Council chair for the term beginning at the end of the 2011
ICANN annual meeting not later than **12 October 2011.**

Nominees shall submit a candidacy statement in writing to the GNSO Secretariat
(gnso.secretariat@gnso.icann.org) as soon as possible after they have been
selected by their house and not later than 22:00 UTC on **14, October 2011.**

Voting Procedure

The candidates from each of the houses shall have the opportunity of meeting with Council
Members during the GNSO working sessions on Sunday **23 October2010. (remote
participation possible)**

Voting will take place during the Council meeting in Dakar on Wednesday, 26 October 2011.
In order for this to happen, it is proposed that the Council meeting be split in two parts:

- Start off with the current Council, then stop.

- Seat the new Councillors with the only remaining order of business being the Chair election.

(Council should decide whether the ballot is open or secret)

If no election of chair occurs in the first round of voting, the GNSO Operating Procedures quoted above in Section 2.2.b will be followed.

2. Electronic ballot voting – Before Dakar meeting

Start nominations Wednesday 7 September until Wednesday 21 September (2 weeks)

Chair Nomination Process

Per the GNSO Operating Procedures referenced above (Section 2.2.b): "Each house will be allowed to nominate one candidate for GNSO Council Chair. Each house is responsible for determining how to nominate its candidate." To allow for the possibility of a timely Council election process in Dakar, each house is asked to submit its nominee for Council chair for the term beginning at the end of the 2011 ICANN annual meeting not later than Wednesday, **21 September 2011.**

Nominees shall submit a candidacy statement in writing to the GNSO Secretariat (gnso.secretariat@gnso.icann.org) as soon as possible after they have been selected by their house and not later than 22:00 UTC on Friday, **23 September, 2011.**

Voting Procedure

The candidates from each of the houses shall have the opportunity of meeting with Council Members during the GNSO Council meeting **on 6 October2011.**
The first round of voting for Council Chair will be held electronically from **7 October until 17 October 2011.** The GNSO Secretariat will announce the results of the first round of voting no later than **18 October 2011.**

If no election of chair occurs in the first round of voting, the GNSO Operating Procedures quoted above in Section 2.2.b will be followed.

<u>Seating of the New Chair</u>

Stépahne van Gelder, current GNSO Council chair, will serve as chair of the Council meeting on 26 October 2011. The newly elected chair of the Council shall assume responsibilities at the end of the 2011 ICANN Annual meeting or as soon as an election occurs thereafter.

If no chair has been elected by the end of the Annual meeting on 28 October 2011, the vice-chairs will assume the chair responsibilities as defined in the Bylaws and a runoff will be scheduled as described in the GNSO Operating Procedures.

The winning candidate needs 60% of the votes of each house.

The Council shall inform the Board and the Community appropriately and post the election results on the GNSO website within 2 business days following the election.

(Note: The Election of Vice Chairs is house specific and will be defined elsewhere)